

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS  
AND INTERFERENCE

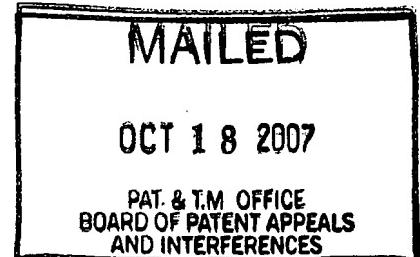
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Ex parte HARM SLUIMAN

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Application 09/772,650

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ORDER RETURNING UNDOCKETED APPEAL TO EXAMINER

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This application was electronically received at the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences (BPAI) on September 6, 2007. A review of the application has revealed that the application is not ready for docketing as an appeal. Accordingly, the application is herewith being returned to the Examiner. The matter requiring attention prior to docketing is identified below.

October 6, 2006, Appellant filed an Appeal Brief. A review of the file reveals that the "Summary of Claimed Subject Matter" does not map the independent claims 5 and 6 to the specification, as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 41.37(c)(1)(v) which states:

37 CFR § 41.37(c) states in part:

(c)(1) The brief shall contain the following items under appropriate headings and in the order indicated in paragraphs (c)(1)(I) through (c)(1)(x) of this section, except that a brief filed by an appellant who is not represented by a registered practitioner need only substantially comply with paragraphs (c)(1)(I) through (c)(1)(iv) and (c)(1)(vii) through (c)(1)(x) of this section:

(v) ***Summary of claimed subject matter.*** A concise explanation of the subject matter defined in each of the independent claims involved in the appeal, which shall refer to the specification by page and line number, and to the drawing, if any, by reference characters. For each independent claim involved in the appeal and for each dependent claim argued separately under the provisions of paragraph (c)(1)(vii) of this section, **every means plus function and step plus function as permitted by 35 U.S.C. 112, sixth paragraph, must be identified** and the structure, material, or acts described in the specification as corresponding to each claimed function must be set forth with reference to the specification by page and line number, and to the drawing, if any, by reference characters.

Correction is required. MPEP § 1205.03 states:

When the Office holds the brief to be defective solely due to appellant's failure to provide a summary of the claimed subject matter as required by 37 CFR 41.37(c)(1)(v), an entire new brief need not, and should not, be filed. Rather, a paper providing a summary of the claimed subject matter as required by 37 CFR 41.37(c)(1)(v) will suffice. Failure to timely respond to the Office's requirement will result in dismissal of the appeal. See MPEP § 1215.04 and §711.02(b).

Accordingly, it is ORDERED that the application is returned to the Examiner to:

- 1) hold the Appeal Brief filed on October 6, 2006, defective;
- 2) notify appellant to file a paper providing a summary of the claimed subject matter as required by 37 CFR 41.37(c)(1)(v);
- 3) consider the paper providing a summary of the claimed subject matter as required by 37 CFR 41.37(c)(1)(v); and
- 4) for such further action as may be appropriate.

BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS  
AND INTERFERENCES

  
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